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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

Monthly Completion Report

STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Special Projects Section
(202) 682-8492/682-8518

Report Month: DECEMBER 1988

REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES[1]

Wells actualiy completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

Cummulative Number of Wells Reported as Completed
For Each of the Past 12 Months

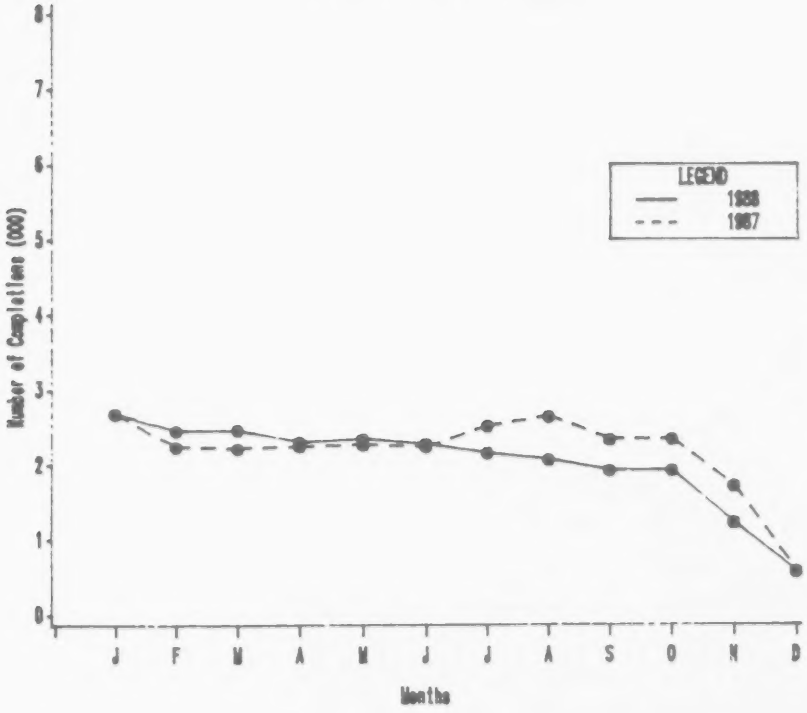

TABLE I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF DECEMBER 30, 1988[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES		TOTAL ALL WELLS[4]	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1988	10,542	46,864,219	5,535	31,272,812	8,421	46,128,182	24,498	124,265,213	25,186	126,531,692
1988: DEC	150	674,261	79	459,193	347	1,904,458	576	3,037,912	583	3,065,816
NOV	428	1,929,559	271	1,538,287	533	3,049,261	1,232	6,517,107	1,248	6,576,388
OCT	684	3,154,297	473	2,534,583	775	4,208,316	1,932	9,897,196	1,996	10,056,992
SEP	731	3,498,505	504	2,746,753	698	3,830,009	1,933	10,075,267	1,979	10,265,355
AUG	819	3,249,134	498	2,624,054	766	4,156,574	2,083	10,029,762	2,132	10,222,209
JUL	912	4,005,736	499	2,782,445	763	4,223,718	2,174	11,011,899	2,214	11,159,948
JUN	1,002	4,373,016	526	2,997,129	766	3,925,451	2,294	11,295,596	2,351	11,518,057
MAY	1,094	4,708,247	485	2,754,891	773	4,156,999	2,352	11,620,137	2,440	11,901,598
APR	1,109	5,014,855	467	2,796,503	734	4,081,867	2,310	11,893,225	2,386	12,147,587
MAR	1,185	5,229,937	548	3,336,111	731	4,058,090	2,464	12,624,138	2,566	12,909,321
FEB	1,162	5,172,604	585	3,329,563	712	4,069,094	2,459	12,571,261	2,545	12,820,696
JAN	1,266	5,854,068	600	3,373,300	823	4,464,345	2,689	13,691,713	2,746	13,887,725
TOTAL 1987	15,506	63,686,418	7,315	39,410,621	10,653	53,047,872	30,474	156,144,911	34,269	158,623,242
1987: DEC	1,339	5,909,098	652	3,649,707	1,039	5,517,394	3,030	15,076,199	3,101	15,307,914
NOV	1,475	6,040,892	637	3,391,801	914	4,788,964	3,026	14,221,657	3,095	14,412,807
OCT	1,516	6,178,671	807	4,330,387	1,097	5,232,403	3,420	15,741,461	3,522	16,123,498
SEP	1,432	5,977,299	640	3,240,190	1,001	4,973,452	3,073	14,190,941	3,127	14,387,814
AUG	1,483	5,684,764	666	3,320,185	964	4,805,160	3,113	13,810,109	3,182	14,021,040
JUL	1,348	5,159,217	573	3,280,079	934	4,355,264	2,855	12,794,560	2,957	13,046,696
JUN	1,199	4,776,624	511	2,826,912	826	4,068,058	2,536	11,671,594	2,602	11,845,132
MAY	1,207	4,952,573	472	2,623,546	786	3,992,816	2,465	11,568,935	2,550	11,881,151
APR	1,071	4,639,465	503	2,820,486	808	3,719,110	2,382	11,179,061	2,415	11,284,689
MAR	1,059	4,557,807	594	3,156,533	731	3,688,024	2,384	11,402,364	2,422	11,519,834
FEB	1,114	4,633,048	590	3,204,202	690	3,368,443	2,394	11,205,693	2,441	11,374,602
JAN	1,263	5,176,960	670	3,566,593	863	4,538,784	2,796	13,282,337	2,855	13,418,065
TOTAL 1986	18,272	73,703,759	7,862	42,257,347	12,107	59,358,409	38,241	175,319,515	39,010	177,764,845
1986: DEC	1,151	4,729,254	720	3,763,676	965	4,828,205	2,836	13,321,135	2,926	13,563,382
NOV	1,161	4,247,929	602	3,201,678	861	4,169,145	2,624	11,618,752	2,665	11,752,070
OCT	1,141	4,214,505	654	3,399,482	830	4,031,587	2,625	11,645,574	2,686	11,828,437
SEP	1,030	3,942,507	583	2,925,058	769	3,802,273	2,382	10,669,838	2,413	10,761,090
AUG	986	3,982,260	570	2,807,025	871	3,915,098	2,427	10,704,383	2,470	10,837,658
JUL	990	4,227,192	579	2,810,336	852	3,987,078	2,421	11,024,606	2,482	11,202,053
JUN	988	4,091,362	515	2,771,250	786	3,639,196	2,289	10,501,808	2,335	10,637,948
MAY	1,161	5,089,890	492	2,757,753	896	4,409,432	2,549	12,257,075	2,630	12,573,312
APR	1,703	7,469,116	665	3,946,802	1,033	4,996,367	3,401	16,412,285	3,476	16,656,998
MAR	2,316	9,663,781	721	4,226,094	1,290	6,337,556	4,327	20,227,431	4,389	20,413,787
FEB	2,339	9,836,838	721	4,189,333	1,198	6,454,554	4,258	20,480,725	4,336	20,770,469
JAN	3,306	12,209,125	1,040	5,458,860	1,756	8,787,918	6,102	26,455,903	6,202	26,767,641
TOTAL 1985	36,303	142,382,727	12,752	70,108,083	21,184	102,960,925	70,239	315,451,735	72,091	320,964,849
TOTAL 1984	44,088	167,353,417	14,989	81,731,574	25,354	119,180,153	84,431	368,265,144	86,759	374,175,418

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF DECEMBER 30, 1988[1]

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1988	701	4,280,617	510	3,463,602	4,135	24,228,392	5,346	31,972,611
1988: DEC	10	76,591	6	22,210	179	994,650	195	1,093,451
NOV	30	184,530	23	131,171	297	1,732,540	350	2,048,241
OCT	57	372,777	43	282,457	412	2,357,282	512	3,012,516
SEP	65	394,508	38	236,171	341	2,006,375	444	2,637,054
AUG	52	283,972	46	277,855	386	2,211,240	484	2,773,067
JUL	62	356,804	48	312,258	386	2,235,033	496	2,904,095
JUN	67	402,158	54	378,244	367	2,073,101	488	2,853,503
MAY	54	340,910	60	465,277	357	2,113,849	471	2,920,036
APR	85	554,232	56	372,291	336	1,898,900	477	2,825,423
MAR	64	385,998	38	286,317	350	2,136,683	452	2,808,998
FEB	74	486,079	49	367,514	346	2,153,202	469	3,006,795
JAN	81	442,058	49	331,837	378	2,315,537	508	3,089,432
TOTAL 1987	885	5,251,337	676	4,473,276	5,005	26,908,667	6,566	36,633,280
1987: DEC	73	419,183	51	330,978	503	2,869,028	627	3,619,189
NOV	90	544,075	56	305,001	452	2,570,913	598	3,419,989
OCT	76	412,089	72	454,000	515	2,673,963	663	3,540,052
SEP	85	530,757	53	327,074	478	2,533,734	616	3,391,565
AUG	76	432,944	68	413,089	438	2,342,055	582	3,188,088
JUL	83	448,787	52	351,788	405	2,125,915	540	2,926,490
JUN	70	428,539	50	417,269	367	1,950,436	487	2,796,244
MAY	67	376,618	51	362,001	369	1,991,365	487	2,729,984
APR	61	383,352	48	274,780	355	1,763,325	464	2,421,457
MAR	59	418,286	53	362,659	360	1,868,487	472	2,649,432
FEB	58	359,111	56	392,511	327	1,663,255	441	2,414,877
JAN	87	497,596	66	482,126	436	2,556,191	589	3,535,913
TOTAL 1986	988	5,956,534	743	5,057,741	5,356	29,727,372	7,087	40,741,647
1986: DEC	79	498,479	43	292,771	489	2,705,855	611	3,497,105
NOV	57	313,038	58	384,186	414	2,119,663	529	2,816,887
OCT	51	314,487	44	313,083	370	1,980,131	465	2,607,701
SEP	46	201,639	67	391,151	326	1,793,021	439	2,385,811
AUG	48	253,581	59	360,941	379	1,964,993	486	2,579,515
JUL	72	401,791	61	361,096	365	1,852,532	498	2,615,419
JUN	56	311,861	51	336,310	320	1,729,993	427	2,378,164
MAY	72	417,634	44	368,414	426	2,349,756	542	3,135,804
APR	94	654,605	63	509,008	453	2,512,093	610	3,675,706
MAR	112	754,445	66	534,670	551	3,158,856	729	4,447,971
FEB	116	749,919	77	550,885	509	3,224,195	702	4,524,999
JAN	185	1,095,055	110	655,226	754	4,336,284	1,049	6,076,565
TOTAL 1985	1,722	10,066,303	1,282	8,638,410	9,117	49,442,837	12,121	68,147,550
TOTAL 1984	2,316	12,538,548	1,583	9,993,588	11,167	58,620,166	15,066	81,152,302

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS[1] BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR REPORTED TO THE API DURING DECEMBER 1988

	OIL WELLS[2]		GAS WELLS[3]		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES		TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[4] CURRENT MONTH	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1988	921	3,958,547	765	4,108,945	832	4,517,271	2,518	12,584,763	2,595	12,821,773
1988: DEC	150	674,261	79	459,193	347	1,904,458	576	3,037,912	583	3,065,816
NOV	316	1,513,789	220	1,315,026	270	1,630,117	806	4,458,932	820	4,506,175
OCT	184	877,063	195	1,048,504	90	464,082	469	2,389,649	484	2,454,242
SEP	75	340,861	100	517,214	42	209,476	217	1,067,551	223	1,100,468
AUG	61	177,300	59	244,099	24	107,826	144	529,225	146	534,031
JUL	42	94,274	28	144,723	11	29,367	81	268,364	81	268,364
JUN	23	61,779	27	97,841	11	45,481	61	205,101	61	205,101
MAY	21	59,612	18	101,567	8	36,380	47	197,559	50	207,034
APR	22	59,001	11	62,160	5	20,981	38	142,142	40	143,647
MAR	4	6,664	13	53,308	2	4,149	19	64,121	31	78,504
FEB	10	30,802	9	40,398	6	44,518	25	115,718	38	129,270
JAN	13	63,141	6	24,912	16	20,436	35	108,489	38	129,121
TOTAL 1987	55	163,705	44	193,772	32	107,113	131	464,590	138	483,938
1987: DEC	11	50,298	5	22,855	4	14,909	20	88,062	24	99,135
NOV	4	7,070	1	2,200	1	4,675	6	13,945	8	21,633
OCT	13	33,177	7	18,198	8	33,232	28	84,607	28	84,607
SEP	6	8,448	3	13,050	6	22,321	15	43,819	15	43,819
AUG	3	14,455	3	8,849	3	5,655	9	28,959	9	28,959
JUL	4	3,951	2	6,545	6	20,715	12	31,211	12	31,211
JUN	6	6,198	4	25,351	0	0	10	31,549	11	32,136
MAY	0	0	3	13,606	1	299	4	13,905	4	13,905
APR	4	21,752	7	43,182	3	5,307	14	70,241	14	70,241
MAR	2	5,790	4	13,143	0	0	6	18,933	6	18,933
FEB	0	0	1	7,872	0	0	1	7,872	1	7,872
JAN	2	12,566	4	18,921	0	0	6	31,487	6	31,487
TOTAL 1986	9	22,844	13	45,849	12	40,138	34	108,831	39	116,744
1986: DEC	0	0	1	1,509	2	5,926	3	7,435	4	9,216
NOV	0	0	3	15,626	2	5,100	5	20,726	7	23,600
OCT	2	2,212	1	1,334	0	0	3	3,546	4	5,529
SEP	0	0	1	7,980	1	2,460	2	10,440	3	11,715
AUG	1	2,167	2	4,784	2	10,570	5	17,521	5	17,521
JUL	1	3,026	2	5,773	1	1,640	4	10,439	4	10,439
JUN	2	9,844	0	0	1	3,800	3	13,644	3	13,644
MAY	0	0	0	0	1	2,750	1	2,750	1	2,750
APR	1	1,552	2	5,018	0	0	3	6,570	3	6,570
MAR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEB	0	0	1	3,825	0	0	1	3,825	1	3,825
JAN	2	4,043	0	0	2	7,892	4	11,935	4	11,935
TOTAL 1985	8	21,809	8	34,083	13	39,929	29	95,821	33	100,190
YRS PRIOR TO 1985	29	94,225	10	27,664	18	59,646	57	181,535	58	189,535
TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[5]	1,022	4,261,130	840	4,410,313	907	4,764,097	2,769	13,435,540	2,863	13,712,180

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of December 30, 1988. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.

2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.

3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLE III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.

2. See footnote (2) above.

3. See footnote (3) above.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.

5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period November 26, 1988 through December 30, 1988. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.